



PATENT APPLICATION  
Q65001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kenichi OHURA

Appln. No.: 09/911,720

Confirmation No.: 4065

Filed: July 25, 2001

For: PNEUMATIC RADIAL TIRES

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MAR 12 2003  
Group Art Unit: 3617  
Examiner: (A)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 1700

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d); or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. However,

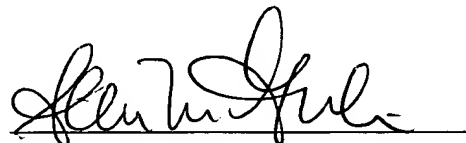
inasmuch as a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) can be made, Applicant submits the same concurrently herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within thirty days from the date of the European Search Report and, therefore, a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is also attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith the copy of the EPO Search Report dated February 21, 2003, issued in connection with a counterpart foreign application (EP 01 30 6362) citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the EPO Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the searching authority.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Gruskin  
Registration No. 36,818

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
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23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: March 10, 2003



#4/VDE  
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Examiner: (TBA)

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making a reasonable inquiry, the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Group Art Unit 3017  
Examiner (TBA)  
GROUP 8600

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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